# The People's Korea

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## DPRK Criticizes Chon's U.S. Visit

The DPRK criticized the April 24-29 visit to the United States by Chon Du Hwan as "a dangerous conspiracy between master and servant for heightening tensions in Korea and freezing her division and maintaining and strengthening the colonial rule of the U.S. imperialists over south Korea."

The official newspaper Rodong Sinmun, organ of the WPK Central Committee, in an April 30 by-lined commentary, attacked Chon's U.S. visit in harsh words. **(See Rodong Sinmun commentary on page 4)**

The commentary says what the south Koreans term "the continuing forward deployment of north Korean forces toward the Demilitarized Zone" and the "threat of southward invasion" are groundless fabrication to justify the U.S. military presence in south Korea.

"In fact, the threat of aggression in Korea comes from the south," says the commentary.

The author of the commentary also said that "the trip of the United States by Chon Du Hwan the puppet was a product of the U.S. imperialists' aggressive Asian policy."

"The U.S. imperialists, advertising a policy of attaching importance to Asia in pursuing the policy of confrontation by strength and directing the spearhead against this region, are scheming to realize their aggressive designs on our country and the rest of Asia, regarding the Korean Peninsula as a main target of the policy of the military gamble and south Korea as a base."

### Tass on Chon's U.S. Visit

Meanwhile, the Soviet news agency Tass on April 28 and 30 reported on Chon's U.S. visit.

Tass April 28 said:

The U.S. imperialists and the south Korean puppet clique, decided to have "annual consultations on security" and regular "political contacts".

The contacts are aimed at inveigling south Korea more deeply into the United States' large-scale war preparations in the Far East, cobbling together a tripartite military alliance of the USA, Japan and south Korea and turning the Asian and Pacific region into another staging area for aggression against socialist states and other sovereign states.

It April 30 exposed the aggressive confab between the boss of the U.S. and Chon Du Hwan.

Noting that "expansion of relations in the military fields was the major object of concern" at the "talks" between Reagan and the traitor" and "an agreement was reached on expanding consultations for security matters," it said his trip to the United States this time meant "another step forward in tightening the tieup for aggression" between the United States and the south Korean dictatorial "regime".

The United States supported repression by the south Korean dictatorial "regime",Tass said.

## *Pyongyang Asks Seoul for Affirmative Reply*

The DPRK on April 30 asked Seoul for an affirmative reply to the April 9 proposal for north-south parliamentary talks.

Mr. Kim Bong Ju, Secretary of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly (SPA), in a telephone message to his south Korean counterpart Li Jin U, said, "we will patiently await till we get an affirmative reply from your side . . . ."

The Fourth Session of the Seventh SPA of the DPRK on April 9 adopted a letter to the South Korean National Assembly proposing to hold interparliamentary talks aimed at drafting a joint declaration of non-aggression.

Although Seoul said that it would send a reply after prudent consideration, no answer has been given to Pyongyang yet.

The message says in part:

Your side, however, has failed to give any affirmative answer to our proposal till today, the last day of April, and, accordingly, the prospect is beclouded for having a contact between working-level delegates of the two sides early in May as proposed for a prior consultation about the north-south parliamentary talks.

Still more regrettable to us is the fact that some press circles and official figures of your side are taking the lead in heaping absurd abuses on our selfless peace proposal, branding it as "a united front stratagem" and "an artifice for the division of public opinion" and, worse still, your side is staging very provocative military exercises against us without interruption, such as "Myolgong (destory communism) 85" and "Pakjwi (BAT) 85," under the baton of the authorities, quite contrary to the official announcement that your national assembly would send a sincere reply.

These ill-omened acts arouse deep apprehensions among the whole nation and world people who desire peace in the country and its peaceful reunification.

Your side should take a proper measure not to allow the continuation of these things disadvantageous to dialogue, detente and peace.

Since your side declared that it would discuss our proposal for parliamentary talks at the forthcoming session of the new National Assembly and send a sincere reply, we will patiently await till we get an affirmative reply from your side, though the contact between working-level delegates of the two sides for the talks might be a little bit delayed.

## *Jaruzelski Meets Kim Yong Nam*

Wojciech Jaruzelski, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party and Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic, met DPRK Foreign Minister Kim Yong Nam on April 28 in Warsaw.

The foreign minister conveyed cordial regards of President Kim Il Sung and Mr. Kim Jong Il to the First Secretary.

He also presented a personal letter of President Kim to Mr. Jaruzelski.

The Polish leader expressed deep thanks for this and asked Kim Yong Nam transmit his heartfelt greetings to President Kim and Mr. Kim Jong Il.

Mr. Jaruzelski said that the visit of the DPRK President to Poland last year was of weighty significance.

He expressed satisfaction with the development of the relations between Poland and Korea on a high plane and stressed that the relations between the two countries would grow stronger in the future.

In reference to the problem of Korean reunification, he expressed full support for the new proposal of the DPRK.

Kim Yong Nam on April 24 met Henryk Jablonski, President of the Council of State of the PPR and his Polish counterpart Stefan Olszowski on April 23 and 24 for talks.

On April 24, the 1985-1986 plan of exchange between the foreign ministries of the DPRK and the PPR was signed in Warsaw.

After visiting the Soviet Union (April 16-23) and Poland, Mr. Kim Yong Nam arrived at Vienna, Austria on April 29.

## Chon's Visit Ignored in U.S.: Newsweek

*Here are excerpts from a Newsweek story on Chon's U.S. visit. The story appeared in the May 6 issue of the magazine.*

Chun Doo Hwan went to Washington last week to have his spirits lifted. The south Korean president's popularity at home was sagging in the midst of a vigorous political challenge to his authoritarian rule. Fortunately for Chun, Ronald Reagan was happy to provide a cheery reception on the White House lawn. Under a bright April sun, the two leaders praised one another and reaffirmed what Reagan called their nations' "especially warm relationship."

Inside, during two hours of meetings and lunch, the talk was a bit more substantive. Reagan and Chun reportedly discussed the increasingly tense political climate in Seoul, where the opposition New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP) is openly challenging Chun on several fronts. The NKDP. . . . has demanded that Chun grant full amnesty to dissident leader Kim Dae Jung, whose 1980 sedition conviction still stands. The party is also asking Chun to release 114 political prisoners.

**Protest:** In South Korea, Chun's visit whipped up a fresh spate of protests. Shortly before he left for Washington, thousands of demonstrating students in Seoul denounced the "sellout" visit and attacked the United States for helping to "legitimize" Chun's rule. In Washington, more than 100 demonstrators gathered across the street from the White House to protest human-rights abuses by the Chun government. But Chun's visit was largely ignored in the United States, lost in the ever-growing protests over Reagan's planned visit to the Nazi cemetery at Bitburg and the debates over U.S. policy in Central America.

## Gen. O Guk Ryol Calls for U.S. Withdrawal

General O Guk Ryol urged the United States to "withdraw its aggression troops and all the lethal weapons from south Korea."

He also urged Washington not to do such acts as "increasing tensions on the Korean Peninsula and obstructing peace talks between north and south Korea."

This remarks came in his report delivered to the central meeting to commemorate the 53rd anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Army (KPA) held in Pyongyang on April 24.

General O Guk Ryol is Chief of General Staff of the KPA and a member of the Politburo of the WPK Central Committee.

In his report, he charged the United States and south Korea with preparing a new war in Korea, talking about non-existent "threat from north Korea."

The Korean People's Revolutionary Army (KPRA) was founded by President Kim Il Sung on April 25, 1932 on the basis of his policy of the building of standing revolutionary forces to destroy the Japanese imperialist colonial rule.

After the liberation, the KPRA was reorganized into a regular revolutionary armed forces, the Korean People's Army.

General O said in his report that the proposal for interparliamentary talks is "a practical step for promoting national reconciliation and trust between north and south and easing tension in the country."

"The approach to our just proposal for parliamentary talks between the two sides is an important yardstick showing whether one truly wants the relaxation of tension in Korea, or not, and whether one wants peace and peaceful reunification, or not," stated the General.

Meanwhile, meetings were held at a unit of the Beijing Military District of the Chinese People's Liberation Army and a Military Academy of the Soviet Union on April 23 to celebrate the 53rd anniversary of the founding of the KPA.

Noting that the DPRK's proposal for north-south parliamentary talks is very just, the political commissar of a unit of the Beijing Military District stressed that the United States must withdraw its troops from south Korea.

A Vice President of the Military Academy of the Soviet Union in his speech expressed firm solidarity with the Korean people in their just struggle to reunify the country without outside interference on a democratic basis in a peaceful way.

## EDITORIAL

# *Reagan-Chon "Summit Talks"*

U.S.-south Korea summit talks at Washington, April 26, were the third meeting since Chon Du Hwan seized power by a military coup, following the first talks in Washington in February 1981 and the second in Seoul in November 1983. As there was only a very short time between Chon's talks with Ronald Reagan and the proposal for north-south inter-parliamentary talks by the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK, great attention was drawn to the items on the agenda of the summit, including a countermeasure for the north's proposal.

After his six-day visit to the U.S., Chon said in a statement at Kimpo International Airport that at the summit meeting they reached agreement on U.S. support for peaceful reunification measures, including a north-south dialogue, and on the reinforcement of mutual cooperation for the peace and security of the peninsula. But whatever beautiful words he may use to embellish his speech, the words now sound empty.

The Reagan-Chon talks have resulted in strengthening America's support for the south Korean military regime, reaffirming "firm U.S. commitment to the defense of Korea" and highly evaluating south Korea's "political development".

Furthermore, Reagan gave support to Chon's promise of "peaceful transfer of government power", a promise designed for the stability and maintenance of his power over half of the 40-year-divided peninsula until the end of his term in 1988. The content of agreement at the summit meeting is no other than a challenge to the populace calling for Chon's immediate resignation.

At the summit talks, they are reported to have agreed on promoting "cross-recognition", that is, the recognition of Pyongyang by the United States and Japan and Seoul by the Soviet Union and China. This notion can hardly be said to be an overture for accelerating the country's early reunification desired by the entire Korean people. It is conducive only to a fixation of the division of Korea.

Chon and Reagan reached agreement on giving priority to a direct inter-Korea dialogue over any other forms of contact, turning a deaf ear both to three-way talks and inter-parliamentary meeting proposed by the north.

Therefore, it is quite natural for us to say that if they regarded a direct north-south contact as a better measure, they should have expressed a positive attitude toward the proposal for inter-parliamentary talks between the two parts of Korea, where politicians from both sides can discuss and find a breakthrough in solving the Korean question even before the proposed tripartite negotiations.

On April 1, south Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs Li Won Gyong said the north's proposal for an inter-parliamentary parley was aimed at confusing public opinion. This remark of his is intended to throw cold water on the north's genuine efforts to realize independent peaceful reunification of the country.

If the U.S. sincerely wishes for a peaceful settlement of the difficult situation prevailing on and around the Korean Peninsula, it should give an affirmative answer to the tripartite talks proposal, and Chon should not repeat such plausible words as "reunification" and "peace" in his speeches, but respond positively to the new peace-oriented proposal.

# Korean Technicians Meet In Pyongyang

**A national meeting of front-rankers in technical innovation was held in Pyongyang on April 27-28.**

A national meeting of front-rankers in technical innovation was held in Pyongyang on April 27-28.

The meeting discussed measures to successfully solve scientific and technical problems arising in generalising successes and experiences gained in the work to implement the party's policy of the technical revolution, in accelerating the Juche-orientation, modernisation and scientisation of the national economy through a powerful mass technical innovation movement and in attaining ahead of schedule the ten long-range objectives of socialist economic construction for the 1980s.

Attending the meeting were Kang Song San, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Premier of the Administration Council, members and alternate members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, a secretary of the WPK Central Committee, and other personages concerned as well as scientists, technicians and members of the "April 15 Technical Innovation Shock Brigade" and the Three-Revolution Teams.

Premier Kang Song San read out a congratulatory letter of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to the meeting.

Chairman of the State Commission of Science and Technology Choe Jae U made a report at the meeting.

The reporter said:

President Kim Il Sung said that the most correct road to the successful fulfilment of the technical revolution was to enhance the role of the working masses, direct undertakers of the technical revolution, and set forth the policy of powerfully conducting the mass technical innovation movement. And he has wisely led them to dynamically wage this movement in each period and each stage of the developing revolution.

The glorious party centre expounded the idea of technical self-support and put forward the policy of powerfully accelerating the technical revolution for its realisation and strengthening the training of native technical personnel.

The torch of automation which rose over the Hwanghae Iron Wroks under the wise leadership of dear Comrade Kim Jong Il ushered in a new era of automation in this land and large long-distance belt conveyers in Unryul and Komdok and many other grand monumental edifices which add brilliance to the age of the Workers' Party have made their appearance in all parts of the country.

The party's policy of training native cadres has been successfully carried out to increase the number of technicians and specialists of the country to 1.25 million.

Big strides forward have been made in the endeavours to attain the grand long-range objectives of socialist economic construction and realize the Juche-orientation, modernisation and scientisation of the national economy as the mass technical innovation movement and technical revolution have been energetically pushed forward under the wise guidance of the great leader and our party.

"The April 15 Technical Innovation Shock Brigade" alone manufactured more than 136,000 machines by itself and introduced over 278,000 proposals of technical innovations into production.

All the successes registered in the carrying out of the technical revolution are a brilliant fruition of the wise guidance of the great leader and our party brightly indicating the road of the scientific and technological development of the country and leading this work along the road of victory.

An important task facing the scientists, technicians and front-rankers in technical innovation in the fulfilment of the technical revolution at present is to successfully solve scientific and technical problems arising in realising the Juche-orientation, modernisation and scientification of the national economy.

# Korean Fishermen Taking Rest In "Sanatoria" on Sea

Pelagic fishermen of Korea are taking a rest at rest rooms in large processing base ships called "Sanatoria" on the sea.

More than 17,000 fishermen of working ships took a rest in the past days at rooms of the large processing base ships "Paekdusan" and "Chilbosan".

While giving on-the-spot guidance to "Paekdusan," the first processing base ship of the country, 20 years ago, President Kim Il Sung expressed satisfaction with the equipment of the ship built for the convenience of the life of fishermen and said that the fishermen of working ships should be let to fully enjoy cultural life in the base ship.

Later, special rest rooms appeared in "Paekdusan", "Chilbosan" and other large processing base ships.

The fishermen of working ships are now taking a rest at the "Sanatoria" on the sea.

The pelagic fishermen of Korea also receive social benefits including family rest at holiday homes, a month-long rest, supplementary holidays and tourism.

# *19th Anniversary of Tax-Free Countryside*

Korea marked the 19th anniversary of the complete abolition of agricultural tax-in-kind on April 29 this year.

In 1946, the year following the liberation of the country, the state realized the peasants' age-old desire for land and liberated them from a high rate of rent and miscellaneous taxes by fixing a single agricultural tax-in-kind.

The Workers' Party of Korea which takes the steady betterment of people's lives as a supreme principle governing its activities took a series of measures to lower the tax-in-kind.

During the trying period of the Fatherland Liberation War and the postwar rehabilitation the state drastically decreased the rate of agricultural tax-in-kind in order to better the poor peasants' lives.

The 4th Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea held in 1961 adopted a decision to abolish the agricultural tax-in-kind as a whole in the period of the first Seven-Year Plan.

On this basis the state exempted cooperative farms from the agricultural tax-in-kind step by step starting from those farms with weak economic foundations.

Over 1,300 cooperative farms out of 3,700 of the country had been released from the tax-in-kind till the end of 1963 and about 800 farms each in 1964 and 1965.

The agricultural tax-in-kind was completely abolished in 1966.

This means additional state benefits of about 160 won to each peasant household and a surplus income of 200 million won to each cooperative farm every year.

The Korean countryside free from tax is flourishing and the peasants' lives are bettering constantly.

Over 10 million tons of grain were produced last year, with the result that the grain output increased 2 times as against 1965 and the real income of farmers grew 1.4 times in the period from 1978 to 1984.

40 Years Since Liberation

# Korea in Its Youthful Prime (9)

## *Generous Cooperation in Agriculture*

(Continued from the No. 1,239 issue of The People's Korea)

### In Joy and in Sorrow

According to data so far known, Korea has helped more than in 60 countries, in 150 agricultural projects. This was disclosed at the first Symposium of the Non-aligned and Other Developing Countries on Increasing Food and Agricultural Production, which was held in Pyongyang on August 26-31 four years ago with delegations and delegates from 81 countries. Its cooperation in agriculture has since been developing smoothly.

Representative buildings constructed by agricultural aid extended by Korea are an agricultural research centre and a centre for producing and disseminating of grains and seeds in Guinea, and an agricultural since research institute in Tanzania.

Today, these centers and research institutes are making studies on agriculture suited to the actual conditions of Africa, in which a large number of not only Korean agricultural technicians and researchers and those of the countries concerned, but also scientists and technicians from neighbour countries are participating.

Meanwhile, Korea built agricultural experimental stations in countries which have no agricultural research centre, and is indirectly helping in the development of new varieties of high-yield crops suited to their climates.

The DPRK sends 10 agricultural researchers each to the agricultural research centres in Tanzania and Guinea, and 3-5 agricultural scientists and technicians each to other agricultural experimental stations.

According to President Kim Il Sung's teaching that such scientists and technicians should eat the same food as the people in the countries where they are dispatched and share joys and sorrows with them, Korean agricultural researchers are working hard, sharing board and room with the local people.

### Grains Increased

Here is an example in Mozambique.

The district where the agricultural centre is located in several thousand kilometers away from its capital and is near the border with Tanzania, at about 10 degrees south latitude. There are endless jungles and large lakes. This naturally rich land is now left to run waste. Fierce animals savage beasts including crocodiles, elephants, tigers and lions live there.

Nobody paid attention to the jungles. But the Korean technical aid group moved into this land, saying "This place surely can be a grenary in the future, if we make the most of its natural advantages."

The actual conditions were such that the area was just a miniature of the suffering modern Africa. In summer, temperature rose to 45°C. And there was a long spell of rain. There are beasts of prey prowling about day and night. The Korean technicians were not daunted by this severe reality.

The local inhabitants came to pay a deep respect to them who worked with the sweat of their brows through thick and thin. They came to actively participate in the project of reclaiming 1,000 hectare land which they didn't believe at first they could do. Finally, they succeeded in growing grain in the jungles.

Such episodes are too many to mention.

These countries of Africa which were unable to produce vegetables before and imported them all the way from Europe, are now producing all kinds of vegetables thanks to Korean technicians' efforts.

Agriculture was put on the right track of development in the Congo where Western technicians had tackled production of farm good but failed.

In Guinea, there were areas where the yeild of corn per hectare didn't reach 1 ton. However a miracle was wrought there when the land came to yield 3.25 tons of corn.

Generally, foreign agricultural experts lead a life removed from that of local people. Local farmers in the countries concerned took it for granted. But the living of the Korean experts was so modest that the local people were surprised at it. Seeing the Koreans work hard together with local people, they thought that probably Koreans were poor experts. But receiving actual guidance from them, local Africans came to hold them in great respect and rely on them, because they had high technique and besides they were very kind and modest.

The Symposium of the Non-aligned and Other Developing Countries on Increasing Food and Agricultural Production was held in Pyongyang on August 26-31, 1981.

Korean technicians of vegetable cultivation have succeeded in the tests of vegetable cultivation in many countries, thus yielding a rich vegetable harvest.

Moreover, the solution of agricultural water is required to be given top priority in African countries where green areas are limited and deserts are spreading to farmland. This has become a serious problem recently.

### Irrigation Promoted

In this respect, the high technique and experiences of Korea, where the irrigation systems of paddy field is complete, and which boasts of the most advanced irrigation system in the world, contributed to the solution of the irrigation question which most African countries face.

The peoples of highly appraise the irrigation facilities, Madagascar and Mali completed with the assistance of Korea and are carrying out their task of increasing grain production.

Korea also plays a part in the training of agricultural experts of African countries.

When the Tanzanian President visited Korea, President Kim Il Sung exchanged views on this problem. As he promised, he expended the Wonsan Agricultural College and received a large number of students from abroad.

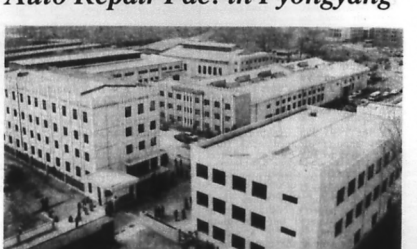
At that time, the President received students who could speak English on a priority basis, in consideration of the fact that foreign students had to spend much time to overcome language difficulties in the past.

He took various measures to give lectures in English so that foreign students could study in a short time.

This is a large number of students who studied agriculture in Korea returned to their own countries and are now active on the front line to increase food production and to establish agricultural colleges.

(To be continued)

# *Korean Traders Here Provide Auto Repair Fac. in Pyongyang*



The Taedonggang General Auto Repair Works built in Pyongyang was commissioned.

The Taedonggang General Auto Repair Works built in Pyongyang was commissioned.

The works which was provided by patriotic-minded traders and manufacturers under the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun) with loyal hearts for President Kim Il Sung is equipped with modern installations for repairing all kinds of automobiles and heavy machines.

The works was put into operation with due ceremony on April 17.

The commissioning ceremony was attended by So Yun Sok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Chief Secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Party Committee, Kim Ju Yong, Director of the General Bureau of Overseas Compatriots Affairs, Pak Sung Il, Chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee, and other personages concerned.

Present there were members of the group of Koreans in Japan headed by Li Gye Baek, Vice Chairman of the Central Standing Committee of Chongryun, visiting the homeland to celebrate April 15 and the home-visiting group of Koreans in Japan headed by Kwon Do Gun, Managing Director of the Taedong Cooperative Association of Auto and allied trades under Chongryun.

A report was made at the commissioning ceremony.

The reporter said that the Taedonggang General Auto Repair Works built with the utmost devotion of Koreans in Japan to the socialist homeland would play a big role in fulfilling a revolution in transportation as a modern rolling stock repair base.

President Kim Il Sung highly estimated the patriotic deed of the traders and manufacturers of Chongryun and saw to it that the works was built on modern lines and Mr. Kim Jong Il acquainted himself in detail with the progress of the construction on several occasions and solved knotty problems and gave a wise guidance for its fast construction, said the reporter.

In his speech Managing Director Kwon Do Gun said the commissioning of the works is a fruition of the wise guidance and deep care of the President and Mr. Kim Jong Il.

At the end of the commissioning ceremony Vice Chairman Li Gye Baek cut the red tape hanging at the entrance of the works.

# Rodong Sinmun Condemns Chon's U.S. Trip as Traitorous Act

**DPRK papers on April 30, commenting on the recent visit to the United States by Gen. Chon Du Hwan brand it as a trip of a traitor which bartered away the country and left the interests of the nation to the tender mercy of his master, currying favor with outside forces, and a war trip wrecking peace, heightening tensions and increasing the danger of war in the Korean Peninsula.**

**Rodong Sinmun in a signed commentary on April 30, headlined "Dangerous Confab between Master and Servant" says that in his confabs with his master, Gen. Chon Du Hwan babbled that south Korea and the United States are "friendly nations" and "allies" and begged for the permanent presence of the U.S. troops in south Korea and an increase of military aid for "security" on the Korean Peninsula. Here is an excerpt of the commentary:**

It is an expression of treachery that only south Korean puppets cried about the blood relationship and companion relationship with the United States and asked for its protection at a time when our people are demanding the withdrawal of the U.S. troops violating the sovereignty and voices calling for independence against U.S. imperialism are ringing out ever louder in south Korea.

The south Korean puppet prattled that we deployed our armed forces near the demarcation line and are increasing the "surprise attack power", again harping on the non-existent "southward invasion" in an attempt to justify the U.S. troops' occupation of south Korea.

In fact, the threat of aggression in Korea comes from the south.

The south Korean puppet obtrusively prattled that he wanted to remove antagonism and mistrust through dialogue and realize unification.

His talk about dialogue for the removal of mistrust and unification, while lending a deaf ear to important proposals of ours and whipping up the consciousness of confrontation and hostility among the people through anti-communist war rackets is a shameless hypocrisy.

While paying lip-service to dialogue and unification in Washington, he called on persons of different circles behind the scene and hatched plots with them for the realization of the "cross recognition" of the north and south. This was a foolish act.

His scheme for the expansion of exchange with the United States based on the so-called "free trade" brought his true color as a traitor into a glaring light.

The south Korean puppet also sought to justify the fascist dictatorship by gagging the press and whitewashing the mediaeval rule in south Korea with the veil of "adaptation of democracy".

Coaxing the puppet who was called to Washington, the United States consolidated a stronghold to perpetuate the U.S. troops' presence in south Korea and keep hold on south Korea as a colony and military base.

The United States patronized the arbitrariness of the dictator with clamouring about the "progress in political development", lending a deaf ear to the voices of the people calling for independence and democracy in south Korea. This self-exposed that the United States is the very one which is fostering the fascist rule in south Korea.

In a secret confab with the south Korean puppet the United States did not bother to conceal its desire to accentuate the subjugation of the south Korean economy for colonial superprofits.

The whole course of recent trip to the United States by Chon Du Hwan the puppet showed that it was a dangerous conspiracy between master and servant for heightening tensions in Korea and freezing her division and maintaining and strengthening the colonial rule of the U.S. imperialists over south Korea.

His trip was a product of the U.S. imperialists' aggressive Asian policy.

The U.S. imperialists, advertising a "policy of attaching importance to Asia" in pursuing the policy of confrontation by strength and directing the spearhead against this region, are manoeuvring to realize their aggressive designs on our country and the rest of Asia, regarding the Korean Peninsula as a main target of the policy of military gamble and south Korea as a base. The trip to the United States by Chon Du Hwan the puppet was based on the U.S. aggressive plan for expanding aggressive base in Asia with south Korea as a stronghold.

It was also aimed by the U.S. imperialists to give a shot in the arm to the south Korean puppets undergoing political crisis, rejected by the south Korean people.

The U.S. imperialists again called to the United States the despicable minion who is denounced at home and abroad as a fascist dictator and rejected even by U.S. political circles and encouraged him with a promise that they would not spare "cooperation" and "assistance". This is a trick to put down the spirit of anti-imperialist struggle for independence and anti-fascist struggle for democracy which is running high among the south Korean people and bridge over the crisis of their colonial rule by encouraging the puppets.

The south Korean puppet, acting upon the script of the U.S. imperialists, made a trip to bar the reunification of the country, perpetuate its division, wreck peace and heighten tensions on the Korean Peninsula, dancing to the tune of his master.

His U.S. tour will only keep north and south separated farther from each other, aggravate the situation in Korea and Asia and pose a greater threat to the peoples' cause of independence, social progress and peace in this region.

If the United States truly wants peace and security in the Korean Peninsula, it must stop encouraging the south Korean puppets and pursuing war policy but discontinue the interference in the internal affairs of Korea and quit south Korea.

If the United States and the south Korean authorities are interested in a peaceful settlement of the Korean problem, they must show an affirmative response to our proposal for tripartite talks.

# Student Demonstrations Continue

More than 2,000 students in Seoul held a demonstration on May Day, the international holiday of workers all over the world, shouting "Down with military dictator Chon Du Hwan" and "Abolish repressive labour laws" and clashed with tear gas-firing riot police, according to a Reuter report from Seoul.

The demonstrators demanded freedom of labour union organization, free labour unions and reinstatement of workers fired for trade union activities.

The protesters who regrouped in the industrial area of Yongdungpo, hurled rocks at the office of the ruling "Democratic Justice Party," smashing its windows.

Police said then detained about 200 students that day.

Meanwhile, over 1,000 students of Seoul National University on April 29, held a demonstration in front of the university library in protest against collective military training of students in the barracks of the south Korean frontline units, according to a radio report from Seoul.

Prior to the demonstration, students held a meeting and denounced the south Korean authorities for trying to force on the students 7-day military training in the barracks of south Korean army units in order to militarize the campus. Then, they proceeded demonstration, shouting slogans demanding free educational conditions, guarantee of the students' status and so forth.

These show that students now attack greater importance to labour problems, living conditions and politics than to mere democratization of the campus.

Students are actively supporting workers seeking higher wages or the right to form trade unions, and are staging street demonstrations together with workers.

On April 23, over 700 students held a demonstration in Seoul in support of the workers of the Pupyong plant of the local Daewoo Motor Company who were on strike for nearly one week for higher wages.

# Anti-Pyongyang War Games Staged

The south Korean authorities staged another "anti-communist" war exercise codenamed "Chungnam Tanghol (ground-wasp) 85" from April 29 to May 2, in the whole area of South Chungchong Province, mobilizing the south Korean army and civilian reserve forces, according to radio reports from Seoul.

The war game was conducted to "test the emergency combat readiness of the "reserve forces" to cope with a "massive surprise intrusion."

On the same day, the south Korean military junta mobilized a marine corps of the navy and a naval unit in "coastal guard training" and held a "chemical, biological and radioactive warfare defence exhibition."

Meanwhile, they staged another provocative war gamble dubbed "Bat 85" from April 22 to 25 in the whole area of Kangwon Province south of the Military Demarcation Line.

The war game was aimed to "confirm, reinforce and perfect a posture to cope with a guerrilla attack."

Without interruption, these provocative military exercises were carried out in succession in south Korea on the pretext of "threat of southward invasion", following the "Team Spirit 85" joint military rehearsal, said to be the largest in scale with more than 200,000 U.S.-south Korean combined troops participating in it.

In the last ten days of April alone, the south Korean authorities carried out such military rackets as "Myolgong (destroy communism) 85", "an opening ceremony of a network of reports by inhabitants", "civilian defence drills" and "training in chemical, biological and radioactive warfare."

In a serious effort to continue north-south negotiations, Pyongyang on April 4 proposed to hold economic talks on May 17 and Red Cross talks on May 28. However, these war games spoil the atmosphere of dialogue.

# S. Korean Exports Fall

The south Korean Trading Association announced a drastic reduction of the volume of exports of all kinds of goods in the first quarter year, according to a report from Seoul.

The export of steel dwindled 24.5 percent, shoes 17.5 percent and fibre 5.8 percent as against the same period of last year.

As for regional export, the export to Central and South Americas and the Middle East reduced respectively 40 percent and 23 percent and that to the United States and Japan also went down continually.

South Korea's exports in April rose 1.1% from a year earlier to $2,345 billion, the Trade and Industry Ministry reported.

The April figure, however, showed a decrease of $3 million from the previous month, when it stood at $2,345 billion.

The April figure brought combined January-April exports to $8.14 billion, down 5.7% from a year earlier.

The sluggish exports were attributed to declines in shipments of such major south Korean export items as textiles and steel.

In the 1985 January-April period, textiles exports dropped 4.7% from a year earlier to $2.07 billion and steel exports fell 15% to $665 million. The setback in steel has been attributed to import curbs in the U.S.

Meanwhile, the New Korea Democratic Party, largest opposition party in south Korea pointed out that south Korean economy was in a serious crisis and demanded the south Korean economic team to resign, bearing responsibility for it, according to south Korean newspapers on April 27.

# S. Korea on the Edge of Economic Crisis Of Great Severity: Survey (1)

*Hong Kong-based Political & Economic Risk Consultancy Ltd. recently issued a quarterly country risk survey on south Korea (January-March) in which it noted that "things have worsened so sharply and so severely that we cannot see how precisely the Government will pull out of this crisis – a crisis it does not yet openly admit exists." Here is a gist of the report:*

### Socio-Political Risks

We have restructured our analysis this quarter to give a balance which more accurately reflects the Korean situation. The nature of the risk model permits the addition of further factors and reweighting without affecting the comparability with the previous quarter's index.

On the domestic front, the high level of student conflict in the last quarter has prompted us to raise our risk assessment slightly on this score.

With regard to attitude of the Government to foreign companies, the increase in red tape actually experienced this quarter raises this factor slightly.

Finally, our risk assessment of government hostility to big business has been raised considerably and reweighted in view of its implications for the overall economy.

### Domestic Economic Risks

We already took a pessimistic view of the domestic economy last quarter. However, the overall poor outlook shows a sharp increase to 0.3704. The problems of big conglomerates will have major repercussions throughout the economy and can be expected to worsen in the coming period under review.

### External Economic Risks

Declining exports, devaluation and BOP problems bring the risk ratio to an all-time high of 0.4222. Considering that the rating in our preceding survey was only 0.2810, risks associated with this section of our model have risen more in the past quarter than have risks in the other sections.

It is primarily – but by no means only – because of external factors that Korea will be a much riskier place in which to operate in the coming period under review. At 0.4222, our risk rating should be interpreted as a sign that caution is warranted. Korea is going through a very critical period. Conditions have deteriorated markedly since our last survey and the likelihood is that they will worsen further in the coming six months.

### Key Trends

Korea in mid-March is on the edge of an economic crisis of great severity. First the economic team has to face up to the evident failure of its management. Only then can a new policy emerge. However things have worsened so sharply and so severely that we cannot see how precisely the Government will pull out of this crisis – a crisis it does not yet openly admit exists.

The major issue is the balance of payments followed by a potential crisis in foreign debt and by flat or even negative real economic growth in the first part of this year. These problems are greatly complicated by anarchy in the Government's industrial policy which is threatening an increasing number of Korean businesses with bankruptcy.

Korea after its first general election since 1981 seems a gloomy place compared with this time last year. Exports actually fell in January and February and there is no sign of an imminent sharp upturn. Consequently, the burden of growth this year will fall on the domestic economy. But activity here has been savagely battered by the Government's tight monetary policy. There is also the very real possibility that the coming agricultural harvest will be bad.

These analysts have been consistently bullish about the Korean economy. We now believe that a very dangerous conjunction is approaching. This conjunction poses special problems for risk analysis because of the nature of if . . . then, if not then . . . root and branch effect of converging scenarios. We must divide this into a scenario diagram in which we think we can indicate the probable critical path. However, policy decisions are decided by so many factors and to come out with the best result it will be necessary for the Government to play all its cards correctly and for there to be no loss of confidence in Korea.

The fact is that the economy is doing extremely badly and the government team seems unusually inept. This ineptness could have political consequences. The wrong decisions have been made and so consistently that we can only assume that they will continue to be made.

### What to Watch for

1. A second cabinet reshuffle in May or June replacing leading economic members of the cabinet. This reshuffle will reflect shifts in political forces and dissatisfaction with the present team.
2. New policies which may reflect either more rapid liberalization under Kang Kyong-shik or a more autarchic and nationalistic approach to the economy.
3. A major set of policy changes in the near term intended to control the BoP. If another month's bad trade figures occur in the first half, worries about the adequacy of foreign exchange reserves could greatly intensify.
4. A contradictory attitude to foreign investment.
5. Strange import policies, with imports paid for increasingly by loans (from Japan) and decreasingly by commercial foreign exchange (rest of the world).
6. A much noiser, but in the end no more effective political opposition.
7. Another big company failure.

### Factors Reflecting Stability of Domestic Social Conditions

No one expects the new university year beginning in March to be peaceful. At Korea University graduation ceremonies on February 25 there were major demonstrations and the Government expects the worst. Minister Kwon is gone, as predicted and his replacement, Minister Sohn, is a hardline military man.

On the other hand, the extremely capable Dr. Shin has moved up to the Blue House as Presidential Adviser on education. This reflects the split within the ruling party as to whether reason or hardline politics will yield the best dividends. Students, heartened by the election result and by the election of a notorious student leader of the seventies in a major Seoul constituency will be likely to stage more vigorous protests.

The NDP has given them a lead on what to demand and therefore students and NDP are likely to act in a more coordinated manner than have recent previous opposition groups. In the past, since about 1974 it has been common to refer to both the parliamentary opposition (usually a tame party), and the extra-parliamentary opposition (students, banned figures, radical Christians and workers). Now, however, there is a chance that for the first time all will throw their weight behind the NDP.

Crime continues, though an international survey of Koreans for Gallup puts Korea as one of the safest places to live. Korea is a country almost without vandalism or street crime, but whose ordinary housebreakers have a standardized violence which is quite different from their code of practice four years ago.

Several foreigners involved in potential incidents have had their complaints refused by the local police because of the sensitivity of the Government of incidents involving foreigners. In other words a local police chief would be blamed for an incident in his district and therefore he refuses to recognize that it has happened. The latest Social Indicators published by EPB confirm this impression (though giving data only to end of 1983). Theft and forcible rape show a high upturn.

In a surprising move President Chun said there should be less interference in labour affairs by the Government and that freer trade unions should be permitted. This may be part of Korea's bid to enter the ILO. However, reform of the 1980 labour laws may well become a feasible issue in the near future.

The Korea Employers Federation has set a wage increase scale for 1985 of 5.7% and we really think this should keep the material needs of Korean workers satisfied. However, a recent survey showed that over 30% of Korean workers earn less than 100,000 won per month ($119) and this is likely to build up envy and resentment in a society in which restrictions on conspicuous consumption by the rich have been greatly reduced.

The economy is not going well but the effects of the slowdown are not yet evident and are unlikely to be evident for the next quarter. There should be increasing unemployment but official and unofficial figures have failed to pick it up. However, Koreans believe that unemployment is growing, especially among young graduates. Reportedly, graduates from secondary universities face a 50% chance of unemployment this year. Even those from the premier universities are complaining that they are not walking into preordained positions but facing fierce competition for jobs.

### Factors Reflecting Official Attitude Toward Foreign Business

The new opposition will be noisy about foreign investment, and foreign banks could find themselves in the front line, especially if the current-account debt situation gets worse. Foreign banks are advised to note very carefully the tone of language used by the Korean language press when reporting matter of fact items concerning them, but especially the profit rate, as reported March 10. The subtle and, in a few cases, not so subtle language changes serve as an early warning indicator of trouble.

We expect the Government to take due notice of opposition demands and to put further obstacles in the way of foreign business. Even if these are only cosmetic, they will make an already-difficult business environment more difficult.

The new banking rules, which theoretically extend the privileges of foreign banks to government rediscount facilities, are in effect a move that puts foreign banks taking advantage of this facility at the discretionary mercy of a whole new range of officials. Long-term foreign bankers are well aware of the ability of the Korean system to make life unbelievably difficult in a pointless and nitpicking way. They must now reckon with one which could actually hit their balance sheets.

(To be continued)

## BRIEF NEWS FROM S. KOREA

### *Anti-"Government" Publications Confiscated*

South Korean culture and information ministry announced on May 4 a clampdown on books and pamphlets that criticize capitalism or praise labour struggles and revolutionary theories, AP reported from Seoul.

It said more than 298 kinds of books and pamphlets were subject to confiscation and about 4,570 copies had been seized since the crackdown began on May 1. According to south Korean newspapers, among them were "a note written in prison" by dissident leader Kim Dae Jung and prominent poet Kim Ji Ha's collected poems.

The report said at least 11 publishers or bookstore owners have been questioned on charges of "illegal trafficking in seditious books."

### *NKDP Urges Gov. to Release Conscientious Prisoners*

The largest opposition New Korea Democratic Party reaffirmed its position on April 26 that political dissidents, including Kim Dae Jung, should have their civil rights restored and conscientious prisoners should be set free without fail.

A three-point resolution passed in a two-hour-long general caucus of 102 members said, "We demand once again that the two things, should be achieved without fail as a way of confirming our will to realized democratization in the new 12th-term national assembly."

The resolution went on, "We are ready to push ahead with the people's desire for democratization confirmed in the Feb. 12 general elections. To this end, we pledge to eliminate undemocratic and poisonous elements from all laws and systems, including the Constitution."

The party members entrusted party president Lee Min U and floor leader Kim Dong Yong to negotiate with the ruling party over the "attainment of our righteous demands" with regard to the parliamentary inauguration.

### *U.S. Justice Department Probing Fighter Deal in S. Korea*

The U.S. Justice Department and the Securities and Exchange Commission are investigating allegations that a consultant for the General Dynamics Corp. paid off south Korean officials to win F-16 fighter plane contracts for the firm, according to UPI report from Washington.

The report said P. Takis Veloitis, a former General Dynamics vice president, referred to the payoffs to Korean officials while claiming that the American company made exorbitant payments to consultants in several countries who secured contracts.

Veliotis, considered by the Justice Department as a fugitive in an unrelated felony indictment, reportedly said in Athens, Greece, that the payoffs by Gen. Dynamics were made through Eung Yul yoon, a retired south Korean air force major general.

Veliotis said Yoon, running a firm named Buyeon Co., demanded $5 million to $10 million in early 1982 as a commission for "smoothing the way" for the company's $900 million contract award in 1981.

"The fellow (Yoon) told us the reason why he wanted a commission," Veliotis reportedly said. "He had given gratuities – not to call them bribes – to some officials, and also to people that had helped him convince the Koreans that the F-16 was a better aircraft than the F-18."

# The History of Korean Residents in Japan And Chongryun

## 3 Democratic Education of Korean Children in Japan

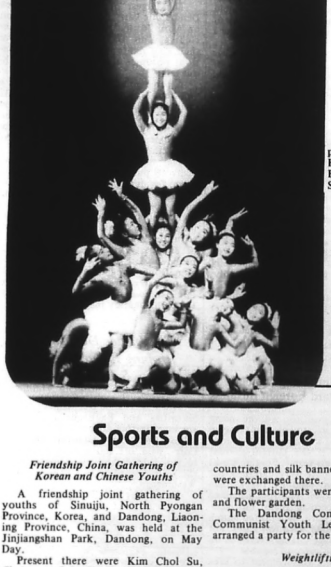
*The formation of Chongryun on May 25, 1955 was of historical importance to the life of Korean children in Japan.*

*For the last few decades, Korean schools built throughout Japan with the great assistance of the DPRK government led by President Kim Il Sung, have produced capable men and women who contribute to the prosperity of their homeland.*

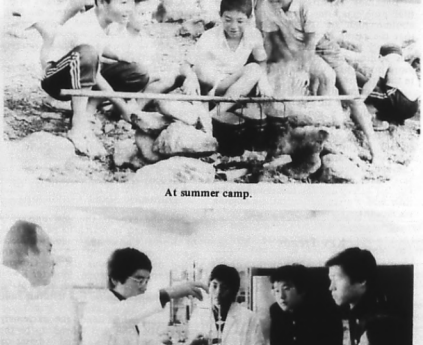
*Today, Chongryun has 154 schools from kindergartens to one university and established a well-regulated democratic educational system.*

*Introduced here are photos showing Korean school children studying, playing and doing thier extracurricular activity:*

Children dusting their classroom's floor (In Korean schools, children are being educated to have intelligence, morality, and healthy mind and body).



Athletic dance performed by Hiroshima 1st Elementary School children.



At summer camp.



High school students at the laboratory room.

## Sports and Culture

*Friendship Joint Gathering of Korean and Chinese Youths*

A friendship joint gathering of youths of Sinuiju, North Pyongan Province, Korea, and Dandong, Liaoning Province, China, was held at the Jinjiangshan Park, Dandong, on May Day.

Present there were Kim Chol Su, Chairman of the Sinuiju, North Pyongan Province, Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, Gao Shijun, Secretary of the Dandong, Liaoning Province, Committee of the Communist Youth League of China, officials concerned and young men and women of the two countries.

Speeches were made by Secretary Gao Shijun and Chairman Kim Chol Su.

Noting that Korea-China Friendship which has a long historical tradition and is based on particular intimacy between the leaders of the two countries is expanding and developing to a new, higher stage, they evinced their resolution to uphold and successfully carry forward the friendship and solidarity sealed in blood between the peoples and youths of the two countries.

Colorful art performances were given by young men and women of the two countries and silk banners and souvenirs were exchanged there.

The participants went round the zoo and flower garden.

The Dandong Committee of the Communist Youth League of China arranged a party for the youths.

*Weightlifting*

Korean weightlifter Kim Gwon Taek in 67.5 kg category came first by jerking 172.5 kg, third in snatching and third in the total at the 17th Asian Weightlifting Championships held over April 15-18 in Hangzhou, China.

Pak Myong Gil in 90 kg category came second in snatching and Paek Bong Jun in 100 kg category also came second in jerking.

In previous matches Korean weightlifters won 4 gold medals, 3 silver and 2 bronze.

The Korean players got 5 gold, 5 silver and 4 bronze medals in the championships.

*Gymnastic*

Korean Gymnast Ko In Su placed first in the free-standing and vaulting-horse events with the respective points of 19.400 and 19.025 at the 9th Gymnastic Championships of Friendly Armies held in Budapest, Hungary.

Kim Su Gil and Sin Myong Su placed first respectively in the ring and parallel bars events with the points of 19.15 and 19.20.

Sin Myong Su came third in the vaulting-horse event.

Korean gymnasts placed second in the total of the men's team event with the point of 275.70.

# — Korean Musical Instruments —

## (4) CHOKTAE

(Continued from the number 1,236 issue)

In Korean version, a recorder is called "So" among no-reed instruments of the wood wind section while a flute called "Cho".

Choktae (representative Korean flute) has an embouchure, 6 holes for sound and one more hole as a half tone device.

There are 3 kinds of Choktae — Tae (big) Ham (flute), Chung (middle) Ham and So (small) Ham.

**This picture illustrates Sam Hyon Ryuk Kak, one of the most popular concert form of popular music.**

All these three kinds have been known as Sam Chuk (three wind instruments of bamboo) and are specially cherished by Korean people.

Choktae is played in the following way; its head is put to the mouth of the player parallely; and air inbreathed into the embouchure; fingering on the holes involving pitch and timbre fluctuations, but most notable is the rendition of Rongum.

Rongum means a rendition with the simultaneous use of the head and shoulders to give traditional color to music.

Choktae made its debut in May 682, according to a record. A legendary episode is told of debut in the world:

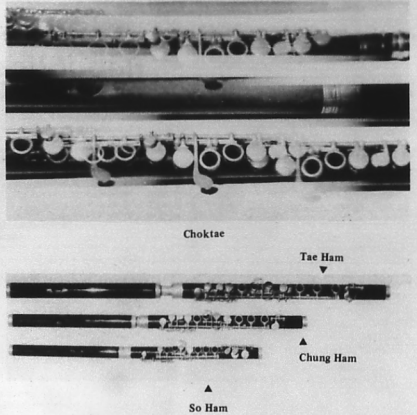
Once upon a time a tiny island suddenly appeared in the East Sea of Korea and strange enough, it was shaped like a human head.

One day, a bamboo tree began to grow there and branched off into two in the daytime and united at night.

The king of the country hearing of this, thought it was a sign of good fortune and sent a messenger to get the bamboo to make Choktae.

When a player blew Choktae, the tune was marvelous; raging waves were calmed down, storms were tamed; rain fell when it was too dry; enemies were routed in battle.

So in the 7th century, it was called Man Pa Shikcho, a treasure to protect the country from danger and sea disasters, and was preserved in a repository under the care of the country.




In the Li dynasty period, Kim Hong Do painted "Mu Ak To" (a picture of dance and music). In the painting, a concert was drawn with Choktae as the center there.

With a wide sound range, Choktae is known for its conspicuous traditional color.

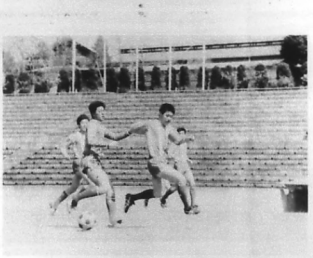
Most beautiful is its timbre in the middle and high ranges. The low pitch is deep and harmonious, while its high pitch is strong and penetrating.

Choktae is usually made of wood or bamboo elements. It is usually 3cm in diameter, and 70cm in length. The length is in proportion to its thickness.

Choktae is an indispensable instrument for duets and concerts as well as solo. "Milky Way", "Evening Glow" composed by Choktae expert Chae Ok Sam, were nominated at the 6th Asian Music Festival in Pyongyang, 1983.

# Tokyo Korean High Wins in Japanese Soccer Festival

▲ Photo of the winners — eleven members of the Tokyo Korean High School team.



▲ Final match at Shimizu.

**After this, ▶ Tokyo Korean High reached the goal.**

The soccer team of Tokyo Korean Senior High School won a victory in the Shimizu Soccer Festival of Senior High Schools held from March 26 to April 1 in Shizuoka Prefecture, Japan.

The festival, annually held in Shimizu, can be called a main one among many soccer festivals held in Japan. 36 senior high schools including 5 colleges participated in it. Among them were the Teikyo Senior High School team which won in the National High School Soccer Championships this January, Komazawa University and Aichi University teams, known as strong succer teams. The Korean team attended the festival successively in the past 10 years. But the team had seven second-year students out of the members this year.

In the preliminary league matches, however, they downed Shizuoka University 2-1, and Shimizu Technical High 3-0, drew 1-1 with Tohoku Gakuin High and beat Narashino High 2-1.

Bunan and Kogaichi Highs had been thoroughly beaten by them in the winner league matches. Though they got a 1-0 narrow defeat by Aichi Gakuin University, they gained the right to participate in the final match. In the final match, they squeezed out a 1-0 victory from Komazawa University.

Tokyo Korean High School was founded on 5th of October, 1946, and the soccer team was organized in the same year. Since then, it has been at the top among the other teams of Korean high schools in Japan.

Also, the team is known among Japanese high schools as "uncrowned king," or a "shadow champion," because it is not allowed to participate in any official soccer matches of high schools in Japan, in spite of its high skill and ability.

Kim Myong Sik, director of Tokyo Korean High's soccer team pointed out the biggest reason for its power as its strong desire to show the mettle of Koreans.

Harayama Ryokei, director of the Komazawa University team, said as follows: "I saw through the game that each member of the team had accurate basic technique, proper judgement according to circumstances, a fighting spirit, cohesion, and an earnest attitude. The team not only routed powerful selected Japanese highs but even the university teams which are more experienced. I pay my respects to the team and congratulate on their success."

第三種郵物認可

# Report on Human Rights in the "Republic of Korea" (5)

(Continued from the previous issue)

## CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGISLATIVE RESTRICTIONS

The 1980 constitution of the Republic of Korea contains some liberal principles concerning the rights of labor. Article 31 provides that to enhance working conditions, workers shall have the right to independent association, collective bargaining and collective action. It provides, however, that the right to collective action "shall be exercised in accordance with the provisions of law." There are further exceptions to the generality of the rights to association, collective bargaining and collective action. Further potential limitations on the rights are permitted by Article 35(2) of the constitution which provides.

> The freedoms and rights of citizens may be restricted by law only when necessary for national security, the maintenance of public order or public welfare. Even when such restriction is imposed, no essentials of the freedom or right shall be violated.

The "law", contained primarily in the Labor Union Act, as amended in 1981, in fact places significant restrictions on the rights and powers of unions.

Article 12 of the statute, for example, prohibits political activities by unions. It forbids a labor union to conduct any act in relation to election to any public office, in order to support a specific political party or to have a specific person elected. It goes on to provide that a labor union shall not be allowed to collect political contributions from its members and that its funds shall not be diverted into political funds.

Article 12-2 of the Law is a kind of mirror image restriction. It states that no one, except for employees who have a direct employment relationship with the employer, the labor union concerned, or other persons duly authorized by laws of decrees shall manipulate, instigate, obstruct or intervene with the intent to influence the concerned parties in the establishment or dissolution of a labor union, joining or leaving a labor union, or in collective bargaining with the employer. This provision is designed to forestall labor activism by the Christian community (such as the Urban Industrial Mission) and by the students as well as involvement in disputes and organizing activities by other unions or labor federations. The strategy is to keep labor matters as local as possible so as to inhibit organizing.

Indeed, for the most part, it is possible only to form unions at individual workplaces. This restricts the kinds of union that may be formed, and works in the direction of fragmentation of workers by workplace. Moreover, since there are often significant rewards for seniority, the system encourages loyalty to management. The cornerstone of legislative fragmentation of the union movement is Article 13 of the Labor Union Act, the relavant part of which provides:

> A Unit Labor Union shall be established by a resolution at a foundation general meeting approved by 30 employees or more or by one-fifth or more of the total employees at the business or a work place who are vested with the right to decide the conditions of employment.

Both the Korean and English texts are unclear but this provision seems to mean in practice that a union cannot be formed in an enterprise that has fewer than 30 employees. Since 80% of all businesses in south Korea hire fewer than 30 workers the vast majority of workers are thus precluded as a practical matter from joining unions.

Article 13(2) of the Law does permit Unit Labor Unions of the same industry to form an Industrial Federations and Industrial Federations or Industrial Unit Labor Unions on a national scale may unite to form a General Federation, but, as might be expected, such federations are of limited power. The main such group, the Federation of Korean Trade Unions, is believed to have shrunk from a membership of about a million in 1979 to 800,000 presently.

Information concerning the formation of a union or federation must, in the language of the English text of the statute

> be submitted, in the case of Federation and the Unit Labor Union which covers more than one province (including Seoul Special City and Pusan City) to the Minister of Labor, and in the case of other labor unions, as applicable, to the Mayor of Seoul Special City, the Mayor of Pusan City or the Governor of the Province (hereinafter referred to as "Administrative Authority").

The "Administrative Authority" as defined in this provision has a significant role to play in the scope of activities in which the union may engage and, in fact, in its very survival as a juridical entity.

Moreover, Article 32 of the Labor Union Act provides for the dissolution of a union by the appropriate Administrative Authority acting "upon resolution" of another body, the Labor Committee. The grounds for such a dissolution are sweeping:

> When the Administrative Authority recognizes that a labor union has violated laws or decrees concerning labor matters or is likely to become detrimental to the public interest, it may, upon resolution of the Labor Committee, order the dissolution of the labor union or order the reelection of its officers.

Under Article 23 (2) of the Law a person who is an officer of a union which is ordered by the Administrative Authority to be dissolved or to reelect officers is not eligible to be an officer in any union until three years have elapsed from the order. Dissolving a union is thus an effective tool not only in disposing of the particular union but also for severely limiting the future activities of its officers.

The Labor Committee to which reference is made in the context of dissolving a union is an entity set up under a separate statute, the Labor Committee Act. That Act asserts that its purpose is to "effect democratization of labor administration and fair adjustment of labor-management relations." In the context of the dissolution of unions, these words ring a little hollow.

The Labor Committee is normally composed of ten persons representing employees, ten persons representing employers and ten persons "representing the public interest."

The President appoints members of the Central Labor Committee, the Minister concerned appoints the members of what are referred to as Special Labor Committees and the Minister of Labor appoints the members of the Local Labor Committees. Labor and management appointees come from the persons recommended by the labor union as employee members and from the persons recommended by the employers' organization as employer members. Public interest members are appointed at the discretion of the President, Minister concerned, or Minister of Labor, as the case may be.

(To be continued)

# 'It Is Time for America to Re-examine Its Policy Toward South Korea,' Says American Professor

*An American professor who teaches at Methodist Theological Seminary in Seoul stressed the need for "serious readjustments in U.S. policy toward South Korea."*

*Mr. Edward W. Pitras, a methodist missionary in south Korea since 1953, in his contribution to The New York Times, said Washington should listen to "what the South Korean people are saying with their ballots . . . ".*

*Here are excerpts from his comment which was reprinted by International Herald Tribune dated May 2:*

SEOUL – President Chun Doo Hwan of South Korea visited the White House last week in what was described as a cordial meeting that fully reaffirmed the security ties between the two countries. In fact, it is unlikely that these talks penetrated below the surface or recognized the need for serious readjustments in U.S. policy toward South Korea.

The legislative elections held in South Korea in February highlighted this need. The campaign allowed a more open political discussion than any in memory. In stumping sessions in which all parties shared the same rostrum, opposition speakers reached out to an enthusiastic electorate, drawing support for the newly formed opposition group, the New Korea Democratic Party. The ruling Democratic Justice Party met an outpouring of dissatisfaction.

While revealing unhappiness with the Chun government, the election also was a great affirmation of the democratic process. The people showed a determination to make system work, and the election gave the country a moral boost.

The Chun government's response has been disturbing, however. It claims it is seeking dialogue and reconciliation, but its new appointments have increased military influence in the cabinet and extended the degree to which Mr. Chun's staff and secret police are involved in political affairs.

South Korea remains a police state. Seoul abounds with uniformed and plainclothes police. Strong-arm police tactics are used routinely against protesting students and workers. Strict controls have reduced the media to a government-propaganda tool. State control of education is Byzantine in its thoroughness. Student and labor protests continue.

Anti-Americanism, which has a long history in South Korea, is a growing ingredient in these demonstrations. South Koreans remember how, early this century, America agreed to Japan's influence in Korea and thus opened the way to a painful annexation. They also remember that in 1945 the United States was party to the decision to divide the country, opening the way to war. For the Korean people, a homogeneous ethnic group that traditionally fears outside influences, this sort of thing raises doubts about U.S. friendship.

> ***"It is time for America to re-examine its policy toward South Korea. We should ask whether American, or South Korean, security is well served by present U.S. policy.***
>
> ***"And it is also time for us to listen to what the South Korean people are saying with their ballots -- to recognize their right and ability to enjoy a free democratic system and to put more weight behind constructive efforts to bring about true democratic reform. This is the only way to achieve security in South Korea."***

Yet they (south Koreans) remain suspicious of American motives and fear that U.S. self-interest may again lead to the undermining of their security.

Nationalism is flourishing in South Korea now, and more people complain that U.S. security interests dominate their country's military policy to their disadvantage; that U.S. business investments are bad for their economy; and that America is merely exploiting South Korea in its effort to exert influence around the world.

These are exaggerated accusations, but each contains some truth. South Koreans suspect that neither the United States nor the powers in the region care much for their dream of reuniting their country. They worry that the United States prefers to live with the status quo than to face the costs of reunification.

To South Koreans, the American government also appears to bend over backward to put the best interpretation on the actions of the Chun government. At the same time, our diplomats seem to give the most cynical interpretations to the actions of the democratic opposition. Even Kim Dae Jung and Kim Young Sam, who have both paid dearly for their democratic convictions, are routinely treated with suspicion.

Many South Koreans have even come to doubt the limited protestations that Americans do make about human rights abuses.

It is time for America to re-examine its policy toward South Korea. We should ask whether American, or South Korean, security is well served by present U.S. policy.

And it is also time for us to listen to what the South Korean people are saying with their ballots – to recognize their right and ability to enjoy a free democratic system and to put more weight behind constructive efforts to bring about true democratic reform. This is the only way to achieve security in South Korea.

THE PEOPLE'S KOREA

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